

● PRINTER RUSH ●
(PTO ASSISTANCE)

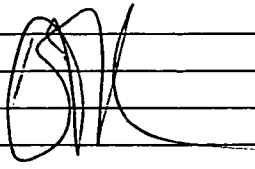
Application : <u>10/765162</u>	Examiner : <u>Gibson</u>	GAU : <u>2841</u>
From: <u>PAP</u>	Location: <u>(IDC) FMF FDC</u>	Date: <u>6/24/05</u>
Tracking #: <u>06097887</u>		Week Date: <u>4/25/05</u>

DOC CODE	DOC DATE	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1449	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Data
<input type="checkbox"/> IDS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> CLM	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Document Legibility
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<input type="checkbox"/> DRW	_____	
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<input type="checkbox"/> SPEC	_____	

[RUSH] MESSAGE: Continuing data listed on the palm/bib
data sheet is missing from the specification
(PCT/JP01/03914).

Thank you.

[XRUSH] RESPONSE: _____

INITIALS: 

NOTE: This form will be included as part of the official USPTO record, with the Response document coded as XRUSH.
REV 10/04

Conveyor Apparatus and Commodity Inspecting Equipment

Utilizing the Same

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a conveyor apparatus and a
5 commodity inspecting equipment equipped with such conveyor apparatus.

BACKGROUND ART

A commodity inspecting equipment such as a weighing conveyor for,
while articles are successively transported by a conveyor apparatus in a
production line, measuring the weight thereof includes, for example, a conveyor
10 apparatus of a type in which an endless flat belt or the like is trained as a
transport belt between a pair of rollers supported by a frame. One of the roller
is a drive roller to which a driving force from a drive source such as a motor for
moving the transport belt, and as a belt for transmission of the driving force an
endless belt or the like is trained between a pulley, mounted coaxially on the
15 drive roller, and a pulley mounted on a drive shaft of the drive source.

The conveyor apparatus is coupled with a free end side of an elastic
element so that it can serve as a load to a load cell as a load detector. A fixed
end side of the elastic element is coupled with a fixed member such as a leg
member, a fixed frame, a fixed bracket or the like. The load cell is generally
20 accommodated within a housing so that it will not be affected by an external
environment such as moisture, dusts and others.

A relation in position between the conveyor apparatus and the
housing is such that since a space above the conveyor apparatus is required to be
open wide in view of articles to be weighed being placed on the conveyor
25 apparatus and since measurements would result in an error when foreign matter
falls onto the conveyor apparatus, the conveyor apparatus is generally disposed
immediately above the housing or in side by side fashion relative to the housing.
Accordingly, hitherto, the housing has an opening defined on a top surface or a
side surface, and a support member for the support of the conveyor apparatus is